

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 19 and ending at page 2, line 8 to read, as follows.

Developer (toner) in the form of an extremely minute particle has been in use as developer for an electrophotographic image forming apparatus such as an electrophotographic copying machine or printer. It has been common practice that as the toner in the main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus is consumed, the main assembly is supplied with toner, with the use of a developer supply container (toner container). Incidentally, an electrophotographic image forming apparatus means an apparatus for forming images on recording medium with the use of an electrophotographic image forming method. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus includes an electrophotographic copying machine, an electrophotographic printers (for example, laser beam printer, LED printer, etc.), a facsimile ~~facsimileing~~ apparatus, a wordprocessor, etc.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 6, line 2 and ending at page 6, line 12 to read, as follows.

Figure 17 is a sectional-perspective view of the sealing member portion of the developer supply container (toner bottle) in accordance with the prior art (the ~~aforementioned~~ ~~(aforementioned~~ laid-open patent application). Figure 18(a) is a front view of the toner bottle in accordance with the prior art ~~(the aforementioned~~ ~~(aforementioned~~ laid-open patent application) and Figure 18(b) is a sectional view of the toner bottle shown

in Figure 18(a), at line A-A in Figure 18(a), showing the interior of the bottle from which toner is being discharged.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 28, line 5 and ending at page 29, line 7 to read, as follows.

There are a baffle ~~baffling~~ member 40 and a plurality of diagonal ribs 40a in the bottle proper 1A. The baffle ~~baffling~~ member 40 is in the form of a plate, and conveys the toner in the bottle proper toward the outlet 1a. The diagonal ribs 40 are attached to both the front and reverse surfaces of the baffling member 40, being tilted at a predetermined angle relative to the axial line of the developer supply container 1. One of the diagonal ribs 40a is placed in contact with the edge of the outlet 1a so that the toner is discharged from the bottle proper by this rib 40a placed in contact with the edge of the outlet 1a, through the outlet 1a, after being conveyed in the bottle proper toward the opening of the outlet 1a. The principle of the toner conveyance in the bottle proper and then principle of the toner discharge from the bottle proper are as follows. As the developer supply container 1 is rotated, the body of toner scooped up by the baffle ~~baffling~~ member 40 due to the rotation of the developer supply container 1 slides down on the surface of the baffle ~~baffling~~ member 40, while being guided toward the outlet 1a by the diagonal ribs 40a. With the repetition of this sequence, the toner in the developer supply container 1 is gradually conveyed, while being stirred, and eventually discharged through the outlet 1a. The baffle ~~baffling~~ member 40 in the form of a plate is not an integral part of the developer supply container 1. It is held to the container proper 1A by baffle ~~baffling~~ member holding ribs 51, and rotates with the container proper 1A.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 33, line 13 and ending at page 34, line 6 to read, as follows.

The cylindrical coupler 2c of the sealing member 2 has a plurality of snap-fitting portions formed of resin. Each snap-fitting portion has the locking projection 3. It is structured to be elastically deformable, making it easier for the locking projection 3 to be depressed inward of the coupler 2c, in terms of the radial ~~radius~~ direction of the coupler 2c, as the toner supply container is inserted further into the image forming apparatus main assembly after the slanted surface 3c of the locking projection 3 comes into contact with the driving portion 20 when the toner supply container is inserted into the main assembly. The snap-fitting portion also has the locking projection disengaging projection 4. Therefore, the projection 4 can be easily depressed inward of the coupler 2c, in terms of the radius direction of the coupler 2c, as can the locking projection 3. In other words, the projections 3 and 4 are integral parts of the cylindrical coupler 2c, more specifically, integral parts of the snap-fitting portion of the coupler 2c.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 34, line 22 and ending at page 35, line 23 to read, as follows.

The locking projection 3 of the sealing member 2 is an integral part of the snap-fitting portion of the coupler 2c; the coupler 2c is for receiving the developer supply container driving force from the apparatus main assembly 100, and is an integral part of the sealing member 2. The locking projection 3 projects outward from the peripheral surface of the coupler portion 2c of the sealing member 2, in the radial ~~radius~~ direction of the coupling portion 2c. It has the driving force receiving surface 3a by which the sealing

member 2 receives rotational driving force from the apparatus main assembly, and a locking surface 3b, which engages with the one of the walls of the locking hole 20h of the driving portion 20 as the coupling portion 2c of the sealing member 2 snap-fits in the driving portion 20. Further, the coupler 2c is provided with a plurality of slits 2e, which render the portions of the coupler 2c having the projections 3, one for one, flexible enough to allow the projections 3 to snap-fit into the locking holes 20h, one for one, of the driving portion 20. In other words, with the presence of these slits 2e, as the projections 3 or 4 are depressed in the direction indicated by an arrow mark c in Figure 10(e), the portions of the coupler 2c having the projections 3 and 4 are allowed to easily deform temporarily in the arrow mark direction (and then, return to their original positions as the pressure on the projections 3 and 4 is removed).

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 44, line 21 and ending at page 45, line 3 to read, as follows.

What is important here is the positioning of each of the driving force transmitting portions 5. Referring to Figure 10(d), the driving force transmitting portion(s) 5 is desired to be positioned as far away as possible from the rotational axis of the sealing member 2, for example, a distance equal to R (a radius ~~(radius~~ of sealing member) away from the rotational axis X-X of the sealing member 2, instead of being positioned in the adjacencies of the rotational axis X-X.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 46, line 13 and ending at page 47, line 6 to read, as follows.

Further, the driving force transmitting means in accordance with the prior art, in which driving force is transmitted with the use of the combination of the square hole and square shaft, suffers from the problem that, should the square shaft become permanently twisted even slightly due to the weight of the bottle proper itself as shown in Figure 15, it becomes difficult for the sealing member 2 to perform its sealing function. In the case of the sealing member 2 in this embodiment, however, even after the driving force transmitting portion(s) 5 of the sealing member 2 has been permanently deformed by the torque applied thereto, the driving force transmitting portion(s) 5 can flex inward of the outlet portion 1a, in terms of the radial ~~radius~~ direction of the outlet portion 1a, minimizing thereby the increase in the friction between the driving force transmitting portion(s) 5 and the outlet 1a. Therefore, it does not become difficult for the sealing member 2 to seal the outlet 1a; the sealing member 2 is allowed to smoothly seal or unseal the outlet 1a.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 53, line 21 and ending at page 54, line 3 to read, as follows.

The driving force transmitting portion(s) 5 in this embodiment is provided with a rib 5b, which is located at the tip of the driving force transmitting portion 5, projecting in the radial ~~radius~~ direction of the sealing member 2. The rib 5b plays the role of regulating the distance, by which the sealing member 2 is slidingly moved outward of the outlet 1a of the developer supply container 1, by engaging with the riser portion of the aforementioned stepped portion 1g of the internal surface of the outlet 1a.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 64, line 1 and ending at page 64, line 17 to read, as follows.

Described ~~To described~~ more concretely, the locking projection of the coupler 2c receives rotational driving force by locking with the driving portion 20 of the apparatus main assembly 100, and the received rotational driving force is transmitted to the container proper by the driving force transmitting portion 5. Also in this variation, the driving force transmitting portion 5 and its counterpart, that is, the driving force receiving portion 1b of the container proper, are structured so that the driving force transmitting portion 5 is allowed to rotate by a sufficient angle during the period between when the driving force transmitting portion 50 of the driving portion 20 of the apparatus main assembly 100 begins to be rotated and when the driving force transmitting portion 50 comes into contact with the driving force receiving portion 1b.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 68, line 4 and ending at page 68, line 14 to read, as follows.

In comparison, the developer supply container 1 in accordance with the prior art could not be easily resealed with the sealing member 2. Thus, in order to remove the developer supply container 1 from the apparatus main assembly, a substantial amount of force had to apply to the front cover to open it. Moreover, the outlet 1a of the removed developer supply container 1 was not completely sealed with the sealing member 2, allowing therefore the developer to leak through the gap between the outlet 1a and the sealing member 2.